Welfare Schemes for Fishermen

2120. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes launched so far for the welfare of fishermen;

(b) whether it is a fact that the schemes are not implemented properly; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government for efficient implementation of the schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTION-MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ENERGY SOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme launched by the Ministry of Agriculture for the Welfare of Fishermen has the following three components:—

(i) Group Accident Insurance for Active Fishermen.

(ii) Development of Model Fishermen Villages: and

(iii) Saving-cum-Relief.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The coverage and the pace of implementation of the schemes vary from State to State; The Ministry ensures proper and effective utilisation of funds released to State Governments by obtaining utilisation certificates from them. State Government have been advised for enlarging the scope of implementation of the schemes. The matter has already been discussed in the recently held meeting of the Central Board of Fisheries.

Need to raise the production of wool in India

2121. SHRI RAJENDRA PRASAD MODY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that on an average an Australian sheep yeilds five Kgs. of wool annually, while the corresponding figure for India is barely 700 grams; and

(b) the steps taken by Government for increasing the production of wool and improving its quality particularly in Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Yes Sir, but with the difference that the corresponding figure for India is about 900 grams;

(b) The Government has taken up several steps for sheer|wool development programmes in the country including the State of Rajasthan with the basic objectie of increasing quality and quantity of wool as well as the body weight of the animals. The Govt. has taken up the following programmes;

(1) Central Sheem Breeding Farm Hisar for the production & supply of superior Rams with exotic inheritance to all the States.

(2) National Ram/Buck Production Programme and Programme for Rabbit Development. It is a centrally Sponsored Programme under which State Departments of Animal Husbandry are provided funds.

(3) Agriculture Development Programme (including sheep development) under World Bank assistance is under World Bank assistance is under implementation in Rajasthan State.

Foodgrain handling by FCI

2122. SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of foodgrains handled by the FCI during each of the year 1990-91, 1991-12 and 1993-94 so far and break up of different type of foodgrains handled by it;